

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1403

To require the Discovery space shuttle to be transferred from the Smithsonian Institution to NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 10, 2025

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To require the Discovery space shuttle to be transferred from the Smithsonian Institution to NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Bring the Space Shut-
5 tle Home Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF DISCOVERY SPACE SHUTTLE TO**
7 **JOHNSON SPACE CENTER IN HOUSTON,**
8 **TEXAS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after
10 the date of the enactment of this Act, under the direction

1 of the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and
2 Space Administration (referred to in this Act as the “Ad-
3 ministrator”), the Discovery space shuttle shall be trans-
4 ferred from the Smithsonian Institution’s Steven F. Udvar
5 Hazy Center of the National Air and Space Museum, near
6 Washington, DC, to the National Aeronautics and Space
7 Administration’s Johnson Space Center in Houston,
8 Texas.

9 (b) PLAN.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator and the
11 Smithsonian Institution shall jointly develop a plan
12 to transfer the Discovery space shuttle under sub-
13 section (a), which shall include an estimated timeline
14 and cost estimate for such transfer.

15 (2) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
16 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
17 the Administrator and the Smithsonian Institution
18 shall submit to Congress the plan developed under
19 paragraph (1).

20 (c) TRANSFER OF TITLE TO NASA.—Not later than
21 1 year after the date on which the Discovery space shuttle
22 is transferred under subsection (a), the Smithsonian Insti-
23 tution shall transfer the title to the shuttle to the National
24 Aeronautics and Space Administration.

1 (d) PUBLIC EXHIBITION.—On the transfer of the
2 Discovery space shuttle under subsection (a)—

3 (1) the shuttle shall be placed on public exhi-
4 bition to advance science, technology, engineering,
5 and mathematics learning at a location not more
6 than 5 miles from the Johnson Space Center; and

7 (2) the Johnson Space Center shall be respon-
8 sible for oversight of the shuttle until the date on
9 which the shuttle is transferred to a nonprofit entity
10 under subsection (e).

11 (e) ROLE OF NONPROFIT ENTITY.—On any date
12 after the transfer of title under subsection (c), the Admin-
13 istrator shall transfer the title to the Discovery space shut-
14 tle to a nonprofit entity designated by the Administrator,
15 on the condition that the nonprofit entity shall maintain
16 the shuttle on public exhibition to advance science, tech-
17 nology, engineering, and mathematics learning in a loca-
18 tion not more than 5 miles from the Johnson Space Cen-
19 ter.

20 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
21 are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator
22 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section,
23 which shall be in addition to any amounts authorized to
24 be appropriated by any other Act, and may be requested

- 1 by the President as supplemental requirements, if needed,
- 2 in the appropriate fiscal years.

